GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:849
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005
PRODUCTION OF DRUGS
Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to take steps for increasing production of drugs in the country ;

(b) if so, the detaiis thereof ;

(c) the percentage of consumption of drugs being indigeneously produced; and

(d) the time by which the country is likely to be self sufficient in drug production sector ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL fSHRI RAM VILAS FASWAN)

(a) to (d) A large number of units manufacturing drugs and related items, both in the organized sector and in the small scale sector are operating in the country. Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules there-under, the responsibility for regulating manufacture and sale of drugs is vested primarily with the State Governments. The Central as well as the State Governments are providing various fiscal and non fiscal incentives for setting up of manufacturing units in selected areas/regions.The share of Indian Pharmaceutical sector in the overall drug market in the country, has now gone upto about 70%.

There has been a substantial impact on pharma sector in terms of production, quality and cost competitiveness due to the various fiscal and non fiscal measures/ incentives adopted from time to time by the Government. This has resulted in the fresh investments for manufacture of bulk drugs and formulations, setting up of facilities for R&D work, enhanced quality as per the global regulations and more importantly increased domestic production and exports to large number of destinations around the world in a cost competitive manner. The country is self-sufficient in production of most of the drugs. The imports of drugs may not be related to the lack of production in the country, as imports made by manufacturers are for different reasons Mke availability of cheaper drugs in international market, imports linked to procurement from Principals abroad etc.